Supporting Children Who Color Outside the Lines Daniel Hodgins

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Why Children Don't Become Creative?

- Talking "out of turn" has turned into a mortal sin
- No tolerance for inquisitive minds
- Wanting the right answers has become more important than the unusual ones

Supporting the Creative Child:

Process is more important than product.....

Process is:

Nothing goes home with the child

Use of table surface/easel surface, etc

Avoid cookie cutters

You don't need to add color to play dough

Time Limits are not stressed.....

The children arrive at a certain time and leave at a certain time

What happens in the middle depends on individual children not the group

Few Boundaries on where activities are to take place....

Children are allowed to move items from one area to another

Books/writing tools in all areas

Self Expression is encouraged.....

Children change the activity that you have planned Children develop new activities

Children don't always have a goal in mine

Competition is Removed.....

Avoid:

"Lets see who can be the quietest"

"Lets see who can pick up the fastest"

"I am looking for good listeners"

Support Risk Taking.....

Allow running

Building higher than their eyes

Climbing up the slide

Being loud

Avoid Models.....

Never show a child how to do something.

Support Being Different

Celebrate the active child

Celebrate the loud child

Celebrate the child who does not share

Learn to Play Again

What did you play as a child? Bring it back.

What invitations do we send to children?

- "Come on in this place is yours"
- "Come on in let me show you how to do it"

Each invitation gets a different child. What type of child do you hope leaves your program?